

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/616,278

Examiner

Carol S Tsai

Applicant(s)

FERGUSON ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/15/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-22 and 26, now renumbered as 1-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 July 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 8-22 and 26 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

U. S. Patent No. 6,158,031 to Mack et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Mack et al. disclose a method for configuring a trigger sequence in a signal measurement system having a graphical user interface, and memory, the method comprising the steps of: a) storing a plurality of protocol definition text files in memory; b) parsing said protocol definition text files into a plurality of data structures; c) forming a plurality of event definitions from said plurality of data structures and d) constructing a series of trigger primitives from said event definition. However, Mack et al. do not teach constructing a logic analyzer trigger sequence from said event definition further comprising the steps of: 1) graphically representing selectable protocol layer icons and a protocol profile window; 2) displaying protocol field information corresponding to said layer of protocol information in response to graphical selection of one of said graphically selectable protocol layer icons, wherein said protocol field information is comprised of a protocol descriptors menu and a protocol editors menu; 3) generating a trigger sequence in response to operator input of data in said protocol editors menu; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

U. S. Patent No. 6,158,031 to Mack et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Mack et al. disclose a method for configuring a trigger sequence in a signal measurement system having a graphical user interface, a software trigger mechanism and

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memory, the method comprising the steps of: a) storing a plurality of protocol definition text files in memory; b) parsing said protocol definition text files into a plurality of data structures; c) forming a plurality of event definitions from said plurality of data structures; and g) constructing a series of trigger primitives from said event definition. However, Mack et al. do not teach d) graphically representing selectable protocol layer icons and a protocol profile window; e) displaying protocol field information corresponding to said layer of protocol information in response to graphical selection of one of said graphically selectable protocol layer icons, wherein said protocol field information is comprised of a least one user editable field; and f) generating a bit sequence in response to operator input of data in at least one of said user editable fields; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

U. S. Patent No. 6,158,031 to Mack et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Mack et al. disclose a system for configuring a trigger sequence in a signal measurement system that acquires signal data in accordance with a trigger definition, the signal measurement system having a graphical user interface, a processor and a memory the system comprising: a plurality of event definitions stored in the memory. However, Mack et al. do not teach an event editor, said event editor comprising a plurality of graphically selectable protocol layer icons and a protocol profile window corresponding to said protocol layer icons, wherein said protocol profile window comprises at least one editable menu and wherein user entries in at least one of said editable menu causes said processor to translate said event definitions into a bit sequence; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

U. S. Patent No. 6,158,031 to Mack et al. in view of U. S. Publication 2002/0188888 to

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Rivoir are references closest to the claimed invention. Mack et al. disclose a method for configuring a trigger sequence in a signal measurement system having a graphical user interface, and memory, the method comprising the steps of: a) storing a plurality of protocol definition text files in memory; b) parsing said protocol definition text files into a plurality of data structures, wherein each of said data structures comprises protocol information including at least a field name, a field size, a field type and a favorite data format for display; c) forming a plurality of event definitions from said plurality of data structures and d) constructing a bit sequence from said event definition; e) optimizing said bit sequence to identify and count multiple consecutive occurrences of identical bit patterns; and f) constructing a series of trigger primitives from said bit sequence, wherein any identification of multiple consecutive occurrences of identical bit patterns by said optimizing results in a single trigger primitive for said multiple occurrence. However, Mack et al. do not teach said step of creating said bit sequence from said event definition comprising the steps of: 1) graphically representing selectable protocol layer icons and a protocol profile window; 2) displaying protocol field information corresponding to said layer of protocol information in response to graphical selection of one of said graphically selectable protocol layer icons, wherein said protocol field information is comprised of a protocol descriptors menu and a protocol editors menu; 3) generating a trigger sequence in response to operator input of data in said protocol editors menu; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carol S. W. Tsai whose telephone number is (571) 272-2224. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached on (571) 272-2216. The fax number for TC 2800 is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2800 receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1585 or (571) 272-2800.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, Group 2800 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office actions directly into the Group at (703) 872-9306. This practice may be used for filing papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers which require a fee by applicants who authorize charges to a PTO deposit account. Please identify the examiner and art unit at the top of your cover sheet. Papers submitted via FAX into Group 2800 will be promptly forwarded to the examiner.



Carol S. W. Tsai
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2857

10/18/04